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A NEW SPECIES OF *STENOCARPHA* (ASTERACEAE, HELIANTHEAE, GALINSOGINAE) FROM MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

A new species **Stenocarpha ritovegana** B. Turner, is described from the vicinity of Surutato, Sinaloa. It differs from the only previously known species of the genus, *S. filiformis* (Hemsl.) S.F. Blake, in having slender rhizomes and 1-3 much larger heads borne upon elongate peduncles.

KEY WORDS: *Stenocarpha, Galinsoga*, Asteraceae, Heliantheae, Galinsoginae, México, Sinaloa

Routine identification of Mexican Asteraceae has revealed the following novelty.

Stenocarpha ritovegana B. Turner, *sp. nov.* Fig. 1. TYPE: MEXICO. Sinaloa: Mpio. Badiraguato, alrededores de Surutato, bosque de pino, 1600-1800 m, 11 Dec 1987, *Rito Vega 2593*, with F. Hernández y A. Hernández (HOLOTYPE: TEX; Isotype: EACS).

Stenocarphae filiformi (Hemsl.) S.F. Blake similis sed differt plantis perennis rhizomatibus tenuibus exorientibus (vs. annuis radice palari exorientibus), capitulis majoribus (12-15 mm latis trans radios expansos vs. 5-8 mm), et capitulescentia capitulis paucioribus instructa (1-3 per caulem vs. 5-numerosis).

Erect scapose perennial herbs 20-30 cm high. Stems mostly less than 1 mm in diameter, arising from slender rhizomes. Leaves all basal, occasionally 1 or 2 pairs of much reduced stem leaves, 2-4 cm long, 1.0-1.5 cm wide; petioles 5-10 mm long; blades lanceolate to oblanceolate, tapering upon the petioles,

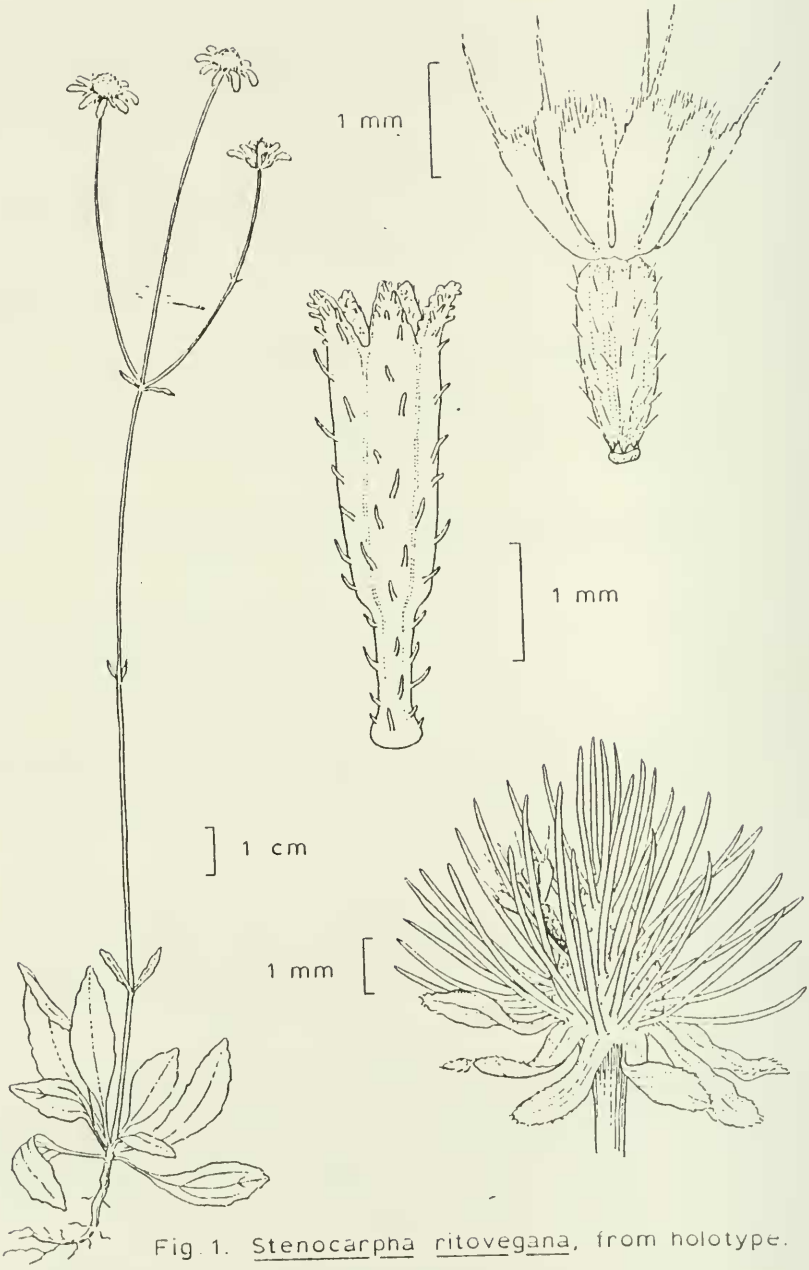

Fig. 1. Stenocarpha ritovegana, from holotype.

glabrous or nearly so, trinervate to subpinnately nervate, the margins crenulodenticulate. Heads 1 to 3 to a stem, the common peduncle up to 15 cm long, the ultimate peduncles mostly 4-10 cm long. Involucres campanulate, 3-4 mm high, 6-7 mm across, the bracts 2-3 seriate, subequal, linear-elliptic, glabrous, striate, the apices obtuse or rounded. Receptacle conical, ca. 2 mm across at the base, ca. 3 mm high, the bracts linear, persistent, 2.5-3.0 mm long, ca. 0.15 mm wide. Ray florets ca. 11, pistillate, fertile, not forming a complex with the pales as in *Galinsoga*, the ligules white, 3-6 mm long, ca. 2 mm wide, the tube ca. 1.5 mm long. Disk florets numerous, the corollas yellow, ca. 2 mm long, the tube hispidulous, ca. 0.6 mm long, the lobes minutely hispidulous, ca. 0.25 mm long. Achenes, those of the ray similar to those of the disk but epappose, those of the disk black, striate, narrowly obpyramidal, somewhat 4 sided, ca. 1 mm long, 0.3 mm wide, moderately strigose, the pappus of ca. 8 persistent white lanceolate scales, 1.0-1.5 mm long, erose at the apices, 4 of these usually possessing setaceous awns.

Canne (1977) would have presumably positioned this taxon in the section *Elata* of her concept of the genus *Galinsoga*, where it would nestle next to its previously only known species, *G. filiformis* Hemsl. Blake elevated *G. filiformis* in taxonomic rank to the monotypic genus *Stenocarpha*, and Turner (1965) maintained the genus, but it must be admitted that the generic lines among phyletic groupings in the subtribe Galinsoginae are tenuous at best, as painfully noted by Turner (1990). Regardless, in my treatment for México, I intend to restrict *Galinsoga* to those species having an achene/phyllary complex that falls as a unit at maturity. *Stenocarpha*, which lacks such a complex, might ultimately be found to be related more closely to *Sabazia* than to *Galinsoga*. Whatever the generic lines, there can be little doubt that the present species belongs within *Stenocarpha* since it contains all of the previously described characters of that group, except for the few headed capitulescence and rhizomatous habit.

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